



413 South Paper Mill Road  
Erdenheim, PA 19038  
January 2, 2003

Secretary, FCC  
Office of the Secretary  
445 Twelfth Street, SW #TW-204B  
Washington, DC 20554

People:

Re: Docket 02-277 -- Rules on how many newspaper and television and radio stations a company can control in one market.

From my perspective, it is appalling that you should be giving any kind of serious consideration to raising the amount of consolidation in any given market.

Raising the amount of control that can rest with one entity reduces the amount of credible information available in that market.

Concentration of control is clearly not supportive of the American democratic way of life.

We have lived through numerous examples of how consolidation (in retailing) typically results in reduced prices, followed by reduced sources of supply, followed by reduced selection, followed by raised prices.

An analogous situation applies where the number of newspapers in a given market has been reduced and where the ownership of radio stations has been consolidated.

To me, the data is clear -- and the results of concentration/consolidation are, for the public, bad.

I fail to see any trade association arguments that favor allowing greater consolidation/concentration as having validity for other than their industry's short-sighted self-interest. ("oil-sighted" because opportunities for economic gain that further weaken our democratic processes will, in the long run, hurt all but the few who survive -- especially among the media.)

Respectfully,

Gordon E. Kutler

[wiridon.kutlerk3verizon.net](mailto:wiridon.kutlerk3verizon.net)

PS -- This would have been emailed to "http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html" but could not get through to the site.

Very truly yours,  
Gordon E. Kutler

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